Big Cypress National Preserve



05/10/2011 Jarhead Fire Update

Florida

Southwest Area Incident Management Team Incident Commander: Dugger Hughes

Public Information Officer: Jim Payne, 602-803-4270 (cell)

Public Affairs Officer/Landowner Contact: Bob DeGross, 239-695-1107, 239-293-3643 (cell)

Jarhead Fire Information: 239-695-0031

Fire Facts:

Location: Center of Big Cypress National Preserve

Size: approximately 35,850 acres (as of 1800 5/8/11)

Percent Contained: 60%

Cause: lightning

Number of Personnel: 350

Date started: 04/26/2011

Estimated Containment Date: 5/18/2011

Injuries to Date: two (minor)

Aircraft: 4 type 1, 1 type 2, and 2 type 3 helicopters Equipment: 10 fire swamp buggies, 18 engines

Crews: 3 type 1, 2 type 2 Initial Attack

General Information/Announcements:

The National Park Service has established incident priorities that include firefighter and public safety, protecting private property, threatened and endangered species and their habitat, and natural and cultural resources. NPS resource advisors continue to work with crews to assess resource impacts and appropriate firefighting tactics.

Some ground level smoke may be visible around the Preserve headquarters and in Everglades City from late afternoon to after dark.

Today's Activity:

Crews will hold, improve and complete burnout operations from indirect control lines on the northwest and south flanks of the fire. Burnout on the northwest flank is likely to create visible smoke. Patrol, monitor, and mop up operations will continue on the remainder of the fire perimeter. Structure protection activities will continue as needed around hunting camps and residences.

Closures/Advisories:

The Preserve is closed west of Oasis Visitor Center to Turner River Road, south of I-75 and north of U.S. 41. This closure includes the Florida National Scenic Trail within the area and the Oasis ORV access.

Public Safety Message:

Please be aware of and observe area closures in effect due to aerial and firefighting operations. Drivers on U.S. 41 and I-75 should exercise extreme caution due to smoke and fire vehicle traffic.

Partners/Cooperators

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge, Everglades National Park, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seminole Tribe of Florida, Ochopee Fire District, Everglades City Fire District, Florida Division of Forestry, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection, Collier County Sheriff's Department, Collier County Emergency Operations Center, Collier County Health Department.

The Southwest Area Incident Management Team took responsibility for fire suppression on 5/1/2011. The team is managing the fire under the direction of Big Cypress National Preserve, a unit of the National Park Service.

For More Information

http://www.nps.gov/naturescience/2011-jarhead-fire.htm http://www.nps.gov/fire/, http://www.inciweb.org